



Los Altos Hills QUARTERLY

INFORMATION BY AND FOR THE TOWN OF LOS ALTOS HILLS

*Happy Spring from
the Town!*

A quarterly update from the Town
to keep you informed.



**Housing Element • Broadband Feasibility Study • Council Workplan
Home Electrification • Residential Burglary Updates • Upcoming Events**



A MESSAGE FROM THE CITY MANAGER

Dear Neighbors,
Are you looking for a quick update?

Security—In light of our rising residential burglaries, the Council authorized the temporary use of a private security service to provide additional monitoring of suspicious activity. Be advised you will be seeing Genesis Private Security vehicles driving around Town.

Housing—The Housing Element Update is very much in play and the Town is actively working to respond to HCD based on their second comment letter.

Storms—The recent storms have played havoc on our infrastructure, but we and other service providers are responding and restoring our Town back to normal.



Scan here to receive the City Manager's Weekly Update:



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A PATH TO MORE PATHWAYS

Los Altos Hills currently has 37 miles remaining on the 120-mile Master Plan. The City Council asked Town staff to bring forward a plan to install 3.6 miles in 2023 with the hopes of completing the remaining system in ten years.

The City Council was presented a plan that detailed the level of effort necessary to build out the 3.6 miles. The plan required a large investment of staff time and contract support, resulting in a significant price tag and the need for a revenue source to fund new pathway projects.

The Council chose not to move forward with the 3.6-mile option, instead, they instructed staff to work with the Pathway Committee to create a plan that is feasible and establishes a more sustainable revenue source to offset the cost of installing new and maintaining the existing pathway system.

In 2022, the Town built more paths than ever before, and the future goal is to continue to maintain existing paths while building new ones that are fiscally and operationally sustainable.



COMMITTEE CORNER

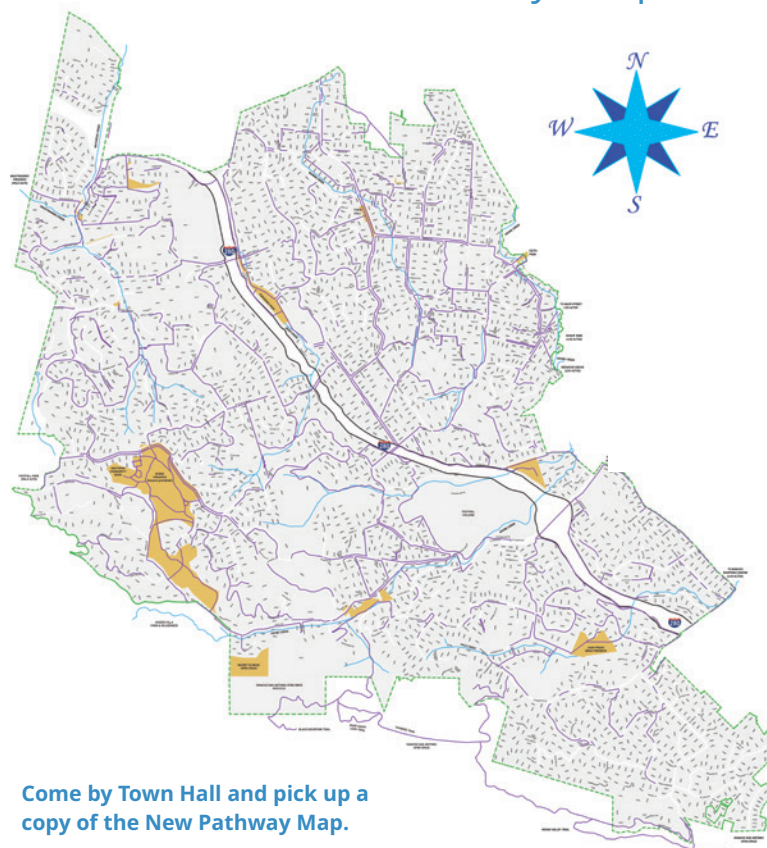
Have you ever asked yourself, "Why would someone volunteer for that job?". Dictionary.com stated the definition of volunteerism as the policy or practice of volunteering one's time or talents for charitable, educational or other worthwhile activities, especially in one's community.

We all have very busy lives, so why volunteer for a position that could require a substantial investment of your time?

Maybe you see it as a challenge, a chance to explore new ideas or an opportunity to improve your leadership skills. Maybe you feel a need to give back or want to feel a sense of accomplishment in your career. Maybe it's all of the above.

The Town has openings on a number of committees and is asking residents to consider volunteering for a committee. This would be a great opportunity to give back and serve your community. To learn more about these volunteer opportunities, visit www.LosAltosHills.CA.gov/153/Standing-Committees.

Los Altos Hills Pathways Map



Come by Town Hall and pick up a copy of the New Pathway Map.

Legend

- Town Boundary
- Walkable Paths on Public, Private, or Easements
- Town Lands
- Major Creeks

Emergency Preparedness & Response Committee	3 openings
Environmental Design & Protection	3 openings
Finance & Investment	1 opening
History	3 openings
Open Space	1 opening
Parks & Recreation	3 openings
Library Commission	1 opening
Senior Commission	1 opening

6TH CYCLE HOUSING ELEMENT



Let's Talk Housing
SANTA CLARA COUNTY

The Town of Los Altos Hills City Council adopted the 6th Cycle Housing Element in compliance with the State law on January 30, 2023, and submitted it to the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) for post-adoption certification.

On March 17, the HCD issued a comment letter to the Town requesting additional revisions and re-adoption of the Housing Element for the Town to regain compliance. Only twelve out of 109 jurisdictions in the Bay Area adopted a Housing Element certified by HCD, one of which are in Santa Clara or San Mateo County. The Town is one of only 11 cities in the two counties that submitted their Housing Element by the January 31st deadline.

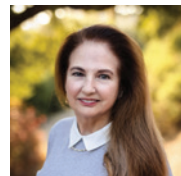
Together, our Housing Consultant Michael Baker International, the City Attorney's Office and the Town staff are committed to addressing HCD's concerns and making the necessary changes to bring our Housing Element into compliance with State law. According to the law, the Town must complete all necessary rezoning within one year of the statutory deadline if we do not obtain HCD's certification within 120 days of the statutory deadline. The City Council has awarded Michael Baker International a contract for the preparation of the rezoning, objective design standards and Program EIR for the multi-family overlay zoning districts, so that our housing consultants can work in parallel with the Housing Element certification to try to meet the one-year rezoning deadline by January 31, 2024.

The Town will continue to provide residents with updates as we move forward with the Housing Element update process. Recently, on March 15th, the Town held a Virtual Town Hall meeting that outlined and discussed the housing element, builder's remedy and the requirements for affordable housing.

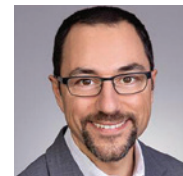


You can view the recording of the Town Hall at www.bit.ly/LAHHousingElement.

Virtual Town Hall Panel



Linda Swan
Mayor, LAH



Peter Pirnejad
City Manager, LAH



Dr. Frank Zerunyan
Councilmember/Professor
Rolling Hills Estates



Dan Wery
Planning Consultant,
Michael Baker



Steven Mattas
City Attorney,
Meyers Nave



Host Ryder Todd Smith
President, Tripepi Smith

BROADBAND FEASIBILITY STUDY

Increasing access to broadband internet in the Town remains a high priority for Los Altos Hills. Last year, the Town entered into an agreement with a Broadband Consultant named Government Technology Group, LLC to conduct a Broadband Feasibility Study for the Town.

This study is a Town-wide analysis on answering the question, "How would the Town build out a broadband infrastructure network?" The study analyzes who can provide the service, how the construction of the service will be funded, and which organizational structure is best geared toward getting the infrastructure deployed to residents.

To help provide insight into this project, the City Council formed an Ad Hoc Committee composed of Vice Mayor Mok and Councilmember Tankha who hold monthly meetings with staff and the consultant to receive updates about the process.

The Feasibility Study will be coming forward on a future City Council meeting agenda. Questions regarding the study can be directed to Interm Asst. to the CM Cody Einfalt—CEinfalt@LosAltosHills.CA.gov.



GOVERNMENT
TECHNOLOGY GROUP, LLC

HOME ELECTRIFICATION

Are you looking to replace a water heater, furnace or gas-fueled appliance? The Town is excited to announce the Home Electrification Assessment Program and the \$1,000 Rebate for Conversion to an Electric Heat Pump Water Heater Program!

Both programs were available starting November 7, 2022, on a first-come, first-served basis. These programs are key initiatives from the Town's 2021 Climate Action Plan that prioritize building electrification and switching from gas to electric appliances.

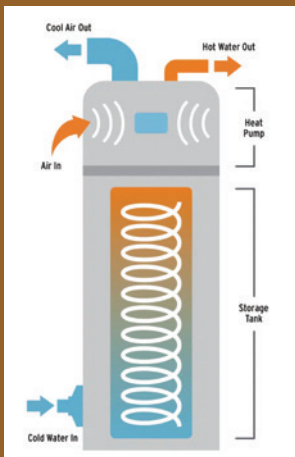
Home Electrification Assessments

The Town has contracted with Home Electrification Assessment Professionals, Zero and QuitCarbon, who assess a home's existing natural gas appliances and provide homeowners with a customized path for migrating their home off natural gas. Interested residents can fill out the form on the Town's website to request the service. <http://bit.ly/3yX9G58>.

There is a limited number of home assessments to start, and sign-ups will close as soon as the limit is reached. A waiting list will be created if more residents are interested.

\$1,000 Rebate for Switching to an Electric Heat Pump Water Heater

The \$1,000 rebate program is limited to the first 14 households that obtain a building permit to replace a natural gas or propane-fueled water heater with an electric one, with a maximum of one rebate per household.



This rebate can be "stacked" on top of other rebates from BayREN and Silicon Valley Clean Energy (SVCE).

For step-by-step instructions on receiving the rebates, please visit the Town's website at: www.bit.ly/3TARSq4.

COUNCIL WORKPLAN



At the beginning of the year, it is the practice of the Town to meet and set goals for the community. This process begins before the annual goal-setting session, which takes place in January, and includes multiple meetings with the City Council, Town staff, Committee members and members of the public to collect ideas to include in the Work Plan. Town staff takes the lead on this effort, compiling all the goals identified by each group and consolidating them into a single document that balances the bandwidth of staff in a given year against all the ideas that were pitched. Many of the goals identified by the groups are often mentioned more than once, which helps staff find consensus on prospective projects for the upcoming year.

The work plan is composed of various goals organized into key priority areas that resonate with the City Council. The 2023 work plan used the priority areas of: Maintaining Quality of Life and Community Character, Promoting Public Safety, Increasing Effective Use of Government and Supporting the Town's Key Infrastructure. Within these priority areas, each goal identifies related information such as budgetary needs, quarter of completion, lead department and staff effort.

Town Staff presented the 2023 work plan at the January 25, 2023 Goal Setting session which the Council subsequently adopted at the February 16, 2023 City Council meeting. Staff plans to give periodic updates throughout the year on the work plan, with a final review at the December City Council meeting.

Should a new project arise during the year and prove to be of importance, the Council has the ability to revisit the work plan and prioritize projects that accommodate the changing needs of the Town.



The 2023 City Council Work plan can be reviewed on the Town's website. www.LosAltosHills.CA.gov/544/2023-Council-Priorities

RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES SPARK CITY RESPONSE!



Did you know there have been 65 Los Altos Hills residential burglaries in the last 14 months? Experiencing a rise in residential burglary rates can feel frightening and overwhelming. It is natural to feel vulnerable when faced with the possibility of a break-in. However, there are steps that can be taken to harden your home, making a burglary less likely.

It is important to recognize that burglars are opportunistic. They are no longer just looking for easy targets. The latest law enforcement intelligence suggests crooks are now making "risk versus reward" calculations. Starting about two years ago, crime gangs began to focus on the reward component (or big scores).

Due to lenient laws, complacent prosecution decisions and low police staffing levels across the state, the entire pool of criminals have moved toward property crime, knowing they may not face prosecution at all. Burglars focus on high-end neighborhoods by using social media to determine what value they might have and when the residents are on vacation.

Emerging Themes

The Santa Clara Sheriff's Office reports found themes that can help guide your stance against crime:

1. Residents fail to set/use an alarm system
2. Thieves target the master bedroom closet
3. No defined time, but mostly daytime hours
4. Very short time inside target home
5. In a few cases, an entire safe was removed
6. If alarms are triggered by thieves, it's on the way out
7. Thieves use stolen license plates to evade our ALPRs
8. Jewelry, purses, safes are the focus
9. Thieves mostly use the rear entry into the home



What's Being Done

City leaders have quickly moved forward with key efforts to improve the situation. Council members Tankha and Tyson now lead a Residential Burglary Ad Hoc committee. This subcommittee's work has included gathering facts and reporting to the City Council which has now added:

1. Two new Sheriff's patrols on an overtime (OT) basis in the evening for a total of three OT officers in addition to the existing contract
2. Extra Sheriff's Office Detective hours to boost the chances of apprehension
3. Private security patrols as a temporary prevention-oriented measure (Genesis Security—See Picture)
4. Extensive public outreach and education
5. Assessments to our existing Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) system to evaluate the system further and suggest how we might enhance its benefits to the Town

What can you do to help?

First, watch out for yourself and your neighbors. On Saint Patrick's Day weekend, an alert resident noticed suspicious activity at a neighbor's home in the early morning hours. A call to the Sheriff resulted in the arrest of two suspects apprehended in the middle of their crime. To thwart the license plate readers, the thieves removed their license plates, but thanks to a good response, the Sheriff's Deputies arrested these crooks.

Second, use all your existing security equipment and consider upgrades. As previously mentioned, too many people with good alarm systems have been victims, later regretting not having activated their alarms. Adding to this, consider having your alarm route directly to the Sheriff's Office so there's no delay in response.

Direct your home alarm company to call the dedicated line of 911 dispatch dedicated for triggers of home alarm systems: 408-289-9530.

Third, stay connected to the Town by signing up for the City Manager's Weekly Report to receive up-to-date crime information and weekly crime prevention ideas. Together, Town leaders and community members will have success reducing burglaries.



Upcoming Events

Los Altos Hills

21ST ANNUAL LOS ALTOS HILLS PATHWAYS RUN/WALK

Saturday, May 13

5K/10K: 9 AM, \$45 (\$50 on race day)

1-Mile Fun Run: 10:30 AM, \$30 (\$35 on race day)

Location: Westwind Community Barn

Come out to celebrate the 21st Annual Los Altos Hills Pathways Run/Walk! This annual event begins at the Westwind Community Barn, travels through the Byrne Preserve and extends into the Los Altos Hills Pathways system. The run features a hilly and challenging 5K and 10K Pathways Run/Walk and a 1-Mile Fun Run. To register, volunteer or for more race information, contact Sarah Robustelli 650-947-2518, SRobustelli@LosAltosHills.CA.gov or visit the event website at www.LAHPathwaysRun.org.



24TH ANNUAL TOWN PICNIC

Sunday, June 4, 12:30-4 PM

Location: Purissima Park

Fee: Free, limited to Los Altos Hills residents only

The Town Picnic features a barbecue lunch, soft drinks, beer, wine and ice cream sundaes, along with entertainment, games, a variety of attractions for both adults and children. You can volunteer to help for half an hour or more at the Picnic by calling 650-947-2518. Registration information will be mailed to all Town residents in May. Advance registration is required so we can order the correct number of lunches. All dogs must be left at home; they are not allowed on the fields by Town ordinance. The event is limited to Town residents only, ID required.



4TH OF JULY PARADE



Tuesday, July 4, 9:30-11AM

Location: Town Hall, **Fee:** Free



Come join us for the 12th annual Los Altos Hills 4th of July Parade. We will gather at Town Hall beginning at 9:30 am. Our red, white and blue march will start at 10:00 am. We will parade down Fremont Road and conclude at Gardner Bullis School where you can meet your friends and neighbors for a refreshing beverage and a juicy watermelon treat! Please, no fossil fueled vehicles or horses. For more information contact Sarah Robustelli 650-947-2518 or SRobustelli@LosAltosHills.CA.gov. Be part of the magic and volunteer! Contact Sarah at 650-947-2518.

DINNER AND MOVIE AT PURISSIMA PARK

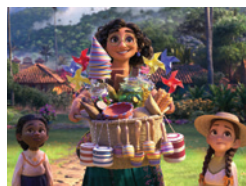
Friday, August 4, 9-10:30AM

Dinner: Begins at 6:30 pm

Movie Start Time: 8:15-10:15 pm

Fee: Free, dinner not included

Location: Purissima Park



Spend a warm summer evening at Purissima Park for an outdoor dinner and movie experience. Prior to the movie, set up camp at the park to enjoy Latin American inspired food fusions (not included) from a local food truck. At sunset, Disney's Encanto will be displayed on a giant outdoor movie screen. Throughout the event, members of the Los Altos Hills Youth Commission will be hosting a coffee and hot cocoa bar along with serving guests their buttery popcorn. RSVP is kindly requested at www.LosAltosHills.CA.gov/MovieNight.

ADULT SOFTBALL GAME

Saturday, August 19, 10AM-12PM

Location: Purissima Park

Fee: Free to attend, concessions available for purchase

Root, root, root for the home team in the 5th Annual Los Altos Hills vs. Los Altos Softball Game. Winning team brings home the Gleaming Glove Trophy! Game day snacks and refreshments will be available for purchase!

Interested in playing? Visit www.LosAltosHills.CA.gov/softball for player application and more information. Must be 18 years or older to play.



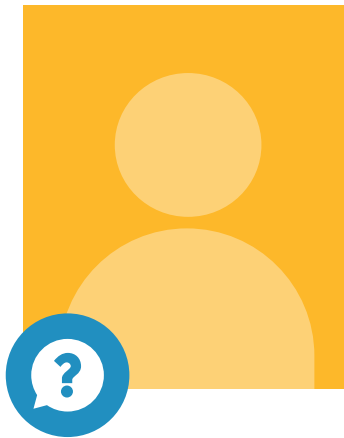


The Town of Los Altos Hills
26379 Fremont Road
Los Altos Hills, CA 94022



Answers: Sarah Robustelli, Chris Knopf, and Cody Einfalt

CAN YOU GUESS THE THREE TOWN STAFF DESCRIBED BELOW?



These three staff attended San Jose State University. They have a Master's Degree in Public Administration. They have been with the Town longer than five years and love to serve. You'll always see them smiling and they are always here to help. **Can you guess who these three people are?**

The Los Altos Hills Quarterly provides Town information and is published by staff four times annually. Issues are posted online at LosAltosHills.CA.gov/LAHQuarterly. For questions about this publication, contact LAHQuarterly@LosAltosHills.CA.gov.



For the Our Town newsletter, visit: LosAltosHills.CA.gov/278/Newsletters.

Need to report an issue or have a Town-related question?

Visit: LosAltosHills.CA.gov or call 650-941-7222.

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